



2022- 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY AT 67

**Community at 67, 67 Queens Road, Keynsham, Bristol
BS31 2NW**

CHARITY NO 1163103

WWW.COMMUNITY-67.ORG

1. Introduction

Welcome to the 2022/23 Annual Report for Community at 67. During the year the community continued to recover from the impact of the pandemic but the community still faced issues from the cost of living crisis. Many of the groups have continued to meet and as you will see from the report we are now planning the future of the charity.

2. Where are we?

Community at 67 is located in Keynsham South and our centre is in a well-used rank of shops in Queens Road, Keynsham, which are the centre of community life. We have a reception area, a well fitted out kitchen and meeting room.



3. Activities

Warm Place



Many people in our community were concerned about the cost of energy to heat their homes and cook food. In response to this, Community at 67 became a Warm Place – part of a network of similar centres across the country. Our friendly group of volunteers welcomed people of all ages to the sessions once a week and provided warm meal.

Public Living Room

As we moved into Spring people wanted the session to continue and we discovered a national network of similar groups called Public Living Rooms run by a group called Camerados who encourage people to come together in community places and treat them like their living room. The sessions have proved really popular and provide a warm welcome and lunch to everyone attending.



I believe this is my first effort to leave the house and meet new people. I don't see so well or walk so well now. I am pleased to have a cup of tea and meet other people. There are all types here and all are welcome

Maths Club

Our maths club continued to operate during the year thanks to the hard work of Sheila and Patricia. The children attending learned new skills and the joy of maths from two passionate maths fans.

Sheila the lovely lady who runs the class is absolutely amazing, so supportive and gives a fun vibe to the classes whilst making them also educational

IT group

Many of us are fortunate to have the knowledge and access to use IT on a regular basis but many people don't have the access or someone to help when they get stuck. Our IT group helps people understand IT and provide a weekly space where people can meet and use the equipment.

Someone recommended Community-67 IT Café. So we went round to them and we were pleasantly surprised as to how willing they were to help and still do. There is no way we could have managed otherwise.

Mum's Group



We were approached by a group of local mothers who were looking for somewhere to meet to offer one another support and friendship in a safe and neutral venue. We were pleased to offer them a centre which works well with the café.

Unfortunately the sessions had to end when we lost the volunteer who helped organise the sessions.

Craft Group

The group continues to provide a place for people who are keen on crafts to meet together for friendship and sharing of skills and ideas. This have blossomed over the year and now two groups meet at the same time.

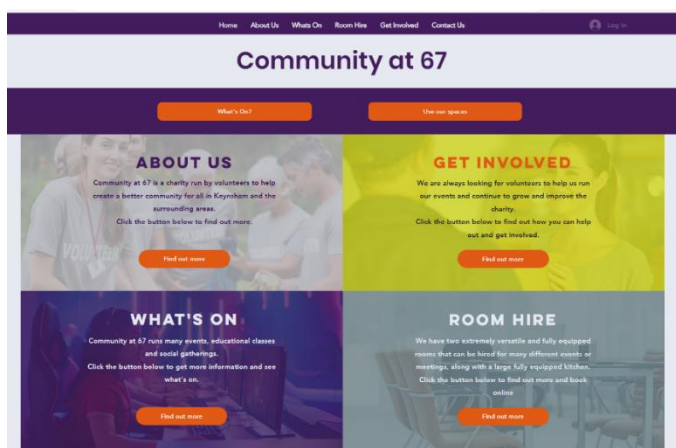


Code club



The Code Club aims to encourage children to take an interest in how coding for computers works by creating simple programs for children in years 5 – 6. This year we bought some Makey Makey kits which connect everyday objects to computer keys and uses closed loop electrical signals to send the computer to either a keyboard stroke or mouse click signal

4. Publicity



It is vital that we continue to promote the activities from Community at 67. We regularly post on our Facebook page and have articles in local newsletters . This year we updated the web site.

5. Volunteers

We have a brilliant team of volunteers at Community at 67 who run all the activities and work behind the scenes to help us function. They give up their time willingly to simply help other people without reward – we are really thankful for everything they do.

6. Trustees and Governance

Trustees 2022/23

Martin Burton	Chair of Trustees
Adrian Inker	Vice Chair
Peter Allsop	Treasurer
Ron Sheppard	Chair management (retired Dec 2022)
Clare Hudson	Charity Trustee
Marc Purkiss	Trustee
Sarah Jenkinson	Trustee

We are grateful to the trustees for their work during the year. Despite being only partially open we have continued to meet to ensure we meet the legal requirements of the Charity Commission and respond to the changing pressures facing the community.

Thank you Ron



Sadly this year Ron Sheppard, who had been a trustee for many years decided to retire. Ron was a vital part of Community at 67, he was able to turn his hands to almost anything whether it be IT or DIY. He would do so many tasks we didn't know about, quietly behind the scenes and had a wonderful and patient manner. We missed Ron immediately and have occasionally had to pick his brains on some issues.

7. Building

We have continued to maintain the centre during the year. A generous grant from Keynsham Town Council has enabled us to replace the tables in the meeting room

Our thanks also to our cleaner Judie, who keeps the centre looking so clean.



We are grateful to the team who have continued to maintain the flower tubs at the front of Queens Road shops. They make a huge difference to the local environment.

Also we are grateful to the members of Keynsham Photographic Society who display their photos in our centre and make the café area so colourful.



Finance

Community at 67 made an operating loss of -£847.85 in 2022/23 (see “Operating (General) Costs” below) – the second year in succession that we have run at a loss. However, the loss in 2022/23 was a marked improvement on the loss of -£7,065.36 made in 2021/22 and demonstrates our slow but continued recovery from the effects to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2022/23 saw an increase in our traditional primary source of income – the hiring-out of our premises – from 2011/22, although the income generated from bookings remains considerably below the level we enjoyed before the pandemic.

The one constant in our income though is the generosity of those who donate to Community At 67 at the many hosted activities that take place in our premises. We remain truly grateful for every pound given, as cumulatively they make a big difference – thank you!

We also work hard to find alternative sources of income and have been successful in attracting various Grants to cover specific activities and projects. These funds (see “Restricted (Grants) Costs” below) are separately managed and accounted for to ensure we meet the obligations placed on us by the grant-making body.

As Trustees, we monitor our finances carefully and regularly and maintain a Contingency Fund to provide a degree of financial resilience to our operation.

Income & Expenditure for F/Y 2022/23:

Income & Expenditure	
Operating (General) Costs	
Operating Receipts (Income)	£7,629.27
Operating Payments (Expenditure)	£8,477.12
Restricted (Grants) Costs	
Grants received for specific projects	£1,510.77
Expenditure on specific projects	£6,951.70

8. Wider network

Trustees have links to a range of other organisations as individuals in their own right which enables Community at 67 to have positive relationships within the community. These groups include

- Keynsham in Bloom
- Keynsham Town Community Radio
- Keynsham Town Council
- Bath and N E Somerset Council
- St John’s Foundation
- Curo Housing Association
- The Children’s Centre
- Food Bank
- BANES Interagency Network

9. Future

This year the trustees have embarked on a major review of the charity, supported by Ian Sheppard a consultant who gave his time and skills to us at no cost for which we are very grateful. During the year we have contacted as many agencies (e.g, schools, health, council) and local groups as we can in our area to find out from them what they perceive as the issues facing our community and ways in which Community at 67 could work with them to address the issues. This has taken longer than we expected as most of the people we needed to speak to were busy and responding to our request might not have been a priority for them! However, Ian persevered and locally we met with people in their offices to see what the issues were.

We have also reviewed what Community at 67 stands for, what is our role and what do we / should we be doing to meet the charitable objectives. This was not as easy as we thought as everyone has a different take on our role but we are now clear about the role. The next steps will be to identify some actions we can take to address the issues that have arisen in the conversations. Some of the activities / projects may not take place in Community at 67 building but may be funded by our charity.

One of the issues we have faced is that people in the community don't know what we do so in 2023/24 we will look at how we can raise our profile of the activities and our role.

Thank you!

We are grateful to all the organisations who support Community at 67, we would especially like to thank

- St Johns Foundation, Bath for their financial support for centre improvements and help with rental payments
- Keynsham Town Council for grants which have enabled the charity to maintain the interior of the building to the highest quality.



Community at 67

Building a Better Local Community For All

Charity No: 1163103

Find out more at
www.community-67.org

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 **Community67**

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***Created by the community for the
community***